

Claims:

1. A tablet formulation comprising a core which includes a first pharmaceutically active material, the core being coated with a release retarding coating, the coated core being itself surrounded by a casing layer which includes a second pharmaceutically active material characterised in that the first and second pharmaceutically active materials in the tablet formulation each individually, and/or together, comprise a β -lactam antibiotic optionally together with a β -lactamase inhibitor.
2. A tablet formulation according to claim 1 characterised in that the first and second active materials both comprise amoxycillin, optionally together in combination with clavulanate.
3. A tablet formulation according to claim 2 characterised in that both the core and the casing layer contain clavulanate and amoxycillin.
4. A tablet formulation according to claim 2 characterised in that all of the clavulanate is contained in the casing layer.
5. A tablet formulation according to claim 2 characterised in that all of the clavulanate is contained in the core.
6. A tablet formulation according to any one of the preceding claims characterised in that the core and the casing layer both comprise a compact of compressed ingredients including the respective active materials.
7. A tablet formulation according to any one of the preceding claims characterised in that the release-retarding coating is an enteric polymer.
8. A tablet formulation according to any one of the preceding claims having one or more sub-coats beneath the release retarding coating layer.
9. A tablet formulation according to any one of the preceding claims having one or more over-coats above the release retarding coating layer.

10. A tablet formulation according to any one of claims 1 to 9, substantially as hereinbefore described with reference to the accompanying drawing.

11. A method of preparing a pharmaceutical formulation as claimed in any one of claims 1 to 10, characterised by the steps of forming a core which includes a first pharmaceutically active material, the core being coated with a release-retarding coating, then coating the core with a casing layer which includes a second pharmaceutically active material.

12. A pharmaceutical formulation as claimed in any one of claims 1 to 10 for use as an active therapeutic substance.

13. A pharmaceutical formulation as claimed in any one of claims 1 to 12 for use in the treatment of bacterial infections.

14. The use of a formulation as claimed in any one of claims 1 to 10 in the manufacture of a medicament for use in the treatment of bacterial infections.

15. A method of treatment of bacterial infections in humans or animals which comprises the administration of an effective amount of a pharmaceutical formulation as claimed in any one of claims 1 to 11.

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